

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8, MONTANA OFFICE FEDERAL BUILDING, 10 W. 15th STREET, SUITE 3200 HELENA, MONTANA 59626

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April 18, 2005

Honorable Max Baucus United States Senate Attention: Elizabeth Ching 222 North 32nd Street, Suite 100 Billings, Montana 59101

Dear Ms. Ching:

Thank you for your April 12 letter. In the letter, you asked for information to a question raised by David Campbell. I'm very sorry, but I do not know of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program that can provide resources, e.g., funding or free medical treatment, to an individual who is suffering from an illness that his/her doctor attributes to exposure to hazardous substances in the workplace.

I assume Mr. Campbell has explored the possibility of seeking assistance from the Workers Compensation program. Also, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services may have programs that could provide assistance. The county health department should be able to provide information about possible resources. Lastly, ARCO may have assumed some health care responsibility for Anaconda Company employees at the time of its buyout of that company. Perhaps Mr. Campbell's father has some information about employee health care programs that may still be available to former Anaconda Company/ARCO employees.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at (406) 457-5001.

Sincerely,

John Wardell Director Montana Office